

What is claimed is:

1 1(currently amended). **A sanitary fitting, comprising: Sanitary**
2 ~~fitting, with~~
3 a valve body,
4 a mixer cartridge located in the valve body, and an operating shaft
5 associated with the mixer cartridge,
6 an operating grip for operating the mixer cartridge, wherein the
7 operating grip can be connected **onto** ~~with~~ the operating shaft of the mixer
8 cartridge,
9 a locking device for **securing** ~~connecting~~ the operating grip **from**
10 **removal from** ~~with~~ the operating shaft, ~~secure against removal,~~ **wherein the**
11 **locking device comprises at least one locking element that is fixed to the**
12 **valve body and overlies part of the operating grip, whereby** said locking
13 device **secures the operating grip to the operating shaft without acting**
14 ~~being formed such that the locking device does not act~~ between the operating
15 grip and the operating shaft.

1 2(withdrawn). Sanitary fitting according to claim 1, wherein the
2 locking device at least comprises two interacting locking elements, one of said
3 locking elements being provided on the operating grip and another of said
4 locking elements being provided on the valve body.

3(canceled).

1 4(withdrawn). Sanitary fitting according to claim 2, wherein the
2 locking element located on the valve body is a part of the valve body.

5(canceled).

1 6(withdrawn). Sanitary fitting according to claim 2, wherein the
2 locking element located on valve body comprises a sleeve.

1 7(withdrawn). Sanitary fitting according to claim 2, wherein the
2 locking element located on valve body comprises a union nut.

8(canceled).

9(canceled).

10(canceled).

1 11(withdrawn). Sanitary fitting according to claim 2, further
2 comprising a seal located between the two locking elements of the locking
3 device.

1 12(withdrawn). Sanitary fitting according to claim 11, wherein the
2 seal is fitted on a side of one of the locking elements.

1 13(withdrawn). Sanitary fitting according to claim 11, wherein the
2 seal comprises a section with a sliding surface finish.

1 14(currently amended). Sanitary fitting according to claim 1, wherein
2 the **locking device for securing** ~~fixing means of~~ the operating grip ~~on~~ **from**
3 **removal from** the operating shaft is ~~arranged on~~ **located at least partly**
4 **along** a circumference around the operating grip and the operating shaft.

1 15(withdrawn). Sanitary fitting according to claim ~~2~~ **3**, wherein the
2 locking element located on the valve body is a part of the valve body.

1 16(withdrawn). Sanitary fitting according to claim 2, wherein the
2 locking element located on valve body is a part of an outlet of the sanitary

3 fitting and a part of one of the valve body and a means for fixing the mixer
4 cartridge.

17(canceled).

1 18(new). A sanitary fitting, comprising:
2 a body;
3 a mixer cartridge located in the body, and an operating shaft associated
4 with the mixer cartridge;
5 an operating grip for operating the mixer cartridge, wherein the
6 operating grip is connected onto the operating shaft of the mixer cartridge and
7 has a flange;
8 a locking device for securing the operating grip from removal from the
9 operating shaft, wherein the locking device comprises at least one locking
10 element that is fixed to the valve body and overlies part of the operating grip,
11 whereby said locking device secures the operating grip to the operating shaft
12 without acting between the operating grip and the operating shaft; and,
13 wherein the locking element is part of an outlet of the sanitary fitting.

1 19(new). Sanitary fitting according to claim 1, wherein the locking
2 element also secures the mixer cartridge in the valve body.

1 20(new). Sanitary fitting according to claim 1, wherein the locking
2 element is part of an outlet of the sanitary fitting.

1 21(new). Sanitary fitting according to claim 1, wherein the locking
2 element overlies a flange of the operating grip.

1 22(new). Sanitary fitting according to claim 21, wherein a surface
2 facing away from the mixer cartridge on the locking element of the operating
3 grip is a part of one of a cylindrical surface and a spherical surface.

1 23(new). Sanitary fitting according to claim 21, wherein the flange is
2 formed such that the flange covers a passage opening for the operating shaft.

1 24(new). Sanitary fitting according to claim 21, wherein the flange
2 covers the passage opening for the operating shaft in all possible positions of
3 the mixer cartridge.